



KID for Teens: Leader's Guide

Save the World!

When God made human beings we were created to take care of the earth, the animals, the plants, the water, the air, the resources in the ground and each other... but something has gone horribly wrong... What are Christians supposed to do about it?

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Before you start:

1. Prayerfully read through the whole lesson at least twice.
2. Gather all the materials you need for each section (see right).
3. Work with another team member and plan who will manage each section of the session.

Leadership Preparation: Personal Preparation:

Have you ever spent a long time making something really special, which was then carelessly or accidentally damaged or destroyed? Do you have a favourite place that reminds you of the Garden of Eden? How strongly do you feel about caring for the world? What are you doing to protect the world and its resources? What are you doing to help people who are suffering because their environment has been damaged?

If the Holy Spirit invites you to do so, be willing to share something of your thoughts and ideas during today's session. . Otherwise use the inspiration of your personal experience to fill you with enthusiasm for today's session.

Icebreaker:

- Option 1: Inflatable toy globes or blue beach balls – 1 per 6-8 people
- Option 2: 'If the World Could Speak' sheets from the resource section – copy 1 per person

- Pens

Word Search:

- Copies of Word Search studies - 1 set of studies per person

- Pens

Mission Possible:

- Plain paper or copies of 'Two Gifts for the World' (resource section) – 1 per group of 3-5 people
- Pencils, felt-tipped pens and colouring materials

Family Focus Time:

- Cups and drinks
- Family Discussion Cards - 1 card per family

Family Prayer Time:

- One dice per family

Jesus and Me (JAM) Session:

- CD player and CD of soft worship music
- One set of 'Jesus and Me' Journal Pages per participant

Take-away Menu (optional):

- Lots of different pictures of nature showing landscapes, flowers, trees, animals, stars and planets, water, sea, birds, fish etc. (use calendar pictures, or print pictures from your computer or the Internet)
- Sticky notes and pens

You will need:

By the end of the session, the group members will:

- Know that God made the world perfectly and that he wanted human beings to respect, enjoy and take care of his amazing creation.
- Feel a responsibility to help take care of the world and God's creative masterpieces.
- Respond by choosing to live in ways that help to protect God's creation and that share the world's precious resources with those who need them most.



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Welcome, Prayer and Introduction – 5 mins

Say:

“ Imagine you painted an amazing picture. You felt really good about it because it was the best picture you’d ever made! You left it on the kitchen table to dry, but when you came back to collect it, someone had spilt orange juice on it, the dog had chewed one of the corners and walked over it with his muddy paws, and the middle was scorched where someone had put a hot pan on it.

How would you feel? How do you think God feels when he looks at our world today? ”

Icebreaker - 10 mins

For Option 1, you will need:

1. Inflatable toy globes or blue beach balls - 1 per 6-8 people
- Divide the large group into smaller groups of 6-8 people according to the amount of people and the number of inflatable globes or balls you have available.
 - Ask them to throw the ball randomly from one person to another within their group.
 - Whoever catches the ball must say something that the world might like to say to us, if only it could speak. Each person must try to give a different answer, and it’s ok to be creative or funny!
 - Allow 5-7 minutes for this activity and then bring everyone together for a brief time of feedback.

Ask: ‘If the world could say only one sentence, what do you think it would say?’

Option 2:

- If you can’t find inflatable globes or you don’t have the space to do this activity - print and use the ‘If the World Could Speak’ posters from the resource section. Ask people to write or draw a message in the world’s speech bubble, and then show and discuss their posters in small groups.

Word Search - 25 mins

You will need:

1. Paper and pens
 2. Copies of Word Search studies - 1 study per person
- There are three different studies for this Word Search. Keep groups small (3-6 people) and make sure that there is an even balance of groups looking at each one of the three studies (A, B or C).
 - Allow 20 minutes for this study.
 - Call the groups back for feedback.

Ask:

- ‘When God looks at the earth, and the damage we have done to the environment, what do you think he is most concerned about?’
 - What are the most important things on earth that humans need to protect in the 21st century?’
 - What responsibility to take care of the world do Christians have when we believe God will destroy everything and make a new earth?’
 - Is it worth trying to recycle things, or taking care of the earth in small ways, when huge damage is being done to the environment by industry, carbon emissions, natural disasters and irresponsible agriculture?’
- Encourage people to explore the studies further in their personal JAM sessions this week.





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Mission Possible - A gift for the world - 10 mins

You will need:

1. Plain paper or copies of 'Two Gifts for the World' (from the resource section) - 1 copy per group of 3-5 people
 2. Pencils, felt-tipped pens and colouring materials
- Use a fun and random way to create groups of 4-5 people.
 - Give each group some sheets of plain paper or copies of 'Two Gifts for the World' and ask them to work together to invent or create some important presents for the world:
 - A specific gift that would help to protect one aspect of the environment (e.g. fast growing trees that combat deforestation and provide lots of food; a cloud catcher to take rain to drought-ridden areas, etc.)
 - A specific gift that would relieve one aspect of human suffering (e.g. immunisation against AIDS; a world-wide food sharing scheme to relieve hunger, etc.)
 - Encourage groups to be thoughtful, creative and imaginative - the ideas don't have to be at all realistic or possible!
 - Ask the groups to draw pictures or diagrams of their two gifts.
 - Allow five minutes for this activity and then ask each group to show the gifts they have chosen and to say why they think they would make a big difference to the world.
 - Have a vote for the best idea, if you wish!

Family Focus - 15 mins

You will need:

1. Drinks and cups.
 2. Family Discussion Cards
- Serve drinks.
 - Let everyone re-assemble into their family groups, collecting a drink on the way.
 - Give each family a discussion card.

Praying together - 10 mins

You will need:

1. One dice per family
- Give each family a dice.
 - Ask each person to throw the dice. Each number on the dice corresponds to a day in creation week:
 1. light or new beginnings
 2. some kind of water (lake, river, rain, drinking water, etc) or air
 3. food, plants, trees, flowers, grass, etc
 4. sun, moon or stars
 5. birds or things that live in water
 6. animals or people
 - The person throwing the dice can then choose how they will pray about the things that God created on that day.

The prayers can be:

- Praising God for the things he made on that day of creation
- Thanking him for something he created on that day that you especially appreciate or enjoy
- Saying sorry to God for the damage that humans have done to something created on that day
- Asking God to help you know what you can do to help protect something that was created on that day.

JAM (Jesus and Me) Session - 5 mins

You will need:

1. CD player and CD of soft worship music
 2. One set of 'Jesus and Me' Journal Pages per participant
- Give out the 'Jesus and Me' Journal Pages for this week.
 - Allow at least five minutes for people to make a start on their pages so that they will be encouraged to complete their projects during the week ahead.

Take-Away Menu - (optional) - 10 mins

You will need:

1. Lots of different pictures of nature showing landscapes, flowers, trees, animals, stars and planets, water, sea, birds, fish etc. (use calendar pictures, or print pictures from your computer or the Internet)
 2. Sticky Notes and Pens
- Spread all the pictures on some tables where everyone can see them.
 - Ask each person to choose their favourite picture and to take it home to remind them to take care of God's creation.
 - Give every person a sticky note and invite them to write on it:
 - one thing they will do differently to help take care of God's creation
 - and**
 - one thing they will do to help share the world's resources with the people who need them (such as helping needy communities to dig their own wells, providing goats and chickens for poor families in third world communities, supporting ADRA, etc)

Closing Prayer





30 KID for Teens: Handout: Save the World! Icebreaker: If the World could speak...



Imagine the world could speak...What do you think it would say to us? Would it tell us where it hurts the most? Or what we could do to make things better? Or would it tell us off for being so neglectful and selfish? Or would it tell us to look after each other better? I wonder...

Just imagine, and then fill in the speech bubble.

When you have filled in your speech bubble, find 2 or 3 other people and share your ideas. Then discuss how you could respond to the SOS message that the world has been trying to send us.





30 KID for Teens: Handout: Save the World! Word Search - Day One



Read the verses below in different translations of the Bible, including 'The Message' if possible.

Read Genesis 1:1-5

What did God create on the first day?

What would it be like to live in a world with very little light? Or in a place like northern Norway where there is no sun-light for several months of the year?

It has been suggested that the earth had light on the first three days before the sun was created because God was there during the day. (See Revelation 21:23) What do you think about this idea?

Jesus is the light of the world (John 8:12). Why is light a good metaphor or symbol for Jesus?

Jesus asks us to be lights too (Matthew 5:14-16).

List some lights that do different kinds of important jobs. Then discuss how Christians can be like those lights in the world today, and help the people around them. E.g. headlights, nightlights, stop lights, lasers, lighthouses, etc.





30 KID for Teens: Handout: Save the World! Word Search - Day Two



Read the verses below in different translations of the Bible, including 'The Message' if possible.

Read Genesis 1:6-8

What did God create on the second day?

How have humans damaged the atmosphere?

How vulnerable would the world be without the sky, the clouds, the air and the atmosphere to protect it?

What is the Christian's responsibility for protecting vulnerable people?

What do you think it would be like to live in a place where there was a war and where it was difficult to find safety and protection?

List some vulnerable groups that you know and some of the different ways that Christians could help to protect them.





KID for Teens: Handout: Save the World! Word Search - Day Three



Read the verses below in different translations of the Bible, including 'The Message' if possible.

Read Genesis 1:9-13

What did God create on the third day?

How have humans damaged the forests, crops and other plants?

What would the world be like without plants, grass, trees, fruit, nuts, flowers, grains, vegetables, etc?

What do you think it would be like to live in a desert where there are very few edible plants, or in a place where a drought or flood has destroyed all the crops?

What can Christians do to help people who are starving because there is not enough food growing in their community?





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KID for Teens: Handout: Save the World! Word Search - Day Four



Read the verses below in different translations of the Bible, including 'The Message' if possible.

Read Genesis 1:14-19

What did God create on the fourth day?

What would the world be like without the sun, moon, planets and stars?

It is easy to understand the importance of the sun to our world, but what about the moon, stars and planets? Why do you think God gave us the stars and the planets? How do they help us?

Some people use the stars, moon and planets to try and predict their future, or to tell horoscopes. How could you help them to find a better way to understand their future, and to help them think more about God who created the amazing universe?





30 KID for Teens: Handout: Save the World! Word Search - Day Five



Read the verses below in different translations of the Bible, including 'The Message' if possible.

Read Genesis 1:20-23

What did God create on the fifth day?

How have humans damaged sea-life and endangered birds?

What do you think the world would be like if nothing lived in the sea?

What would you miss the most if there were no birds?

What is our responsibility to people who need to move away from their homes to find other places where there is food, warmth, care and safety (rather like the way that birds migrate)? How can Christians help and support them?





30 KID for Teens: Handout: Save the World! Word Search - Day Six



Read the verses below in different translations of the Bible, including 'The Message' if possible.

Read Genesis 1:24-31

What did God create on the sixth day?

How have human beings hurt the animal kingdom?

What would the world be like without animals?

How have humans hurt other humans?

What would the world be like without human beings?

What do you think it would be like to live a life where you hardly ever met or spoke to another human being?

How can Christians care for those who are lonely and isolated from other people by their own fears, their disabilities, their illness, being in prison, being orphaned or through other circumstances?





30 KID for Teens: Handout: Save the World! Two Gifts for the World



Lesson 30 -

FAMILY Discussion CARD

If I could do one thing to take care of the world, I would like to...

If I were God, I would be most upset about the mess people have made of...

I think the most beautiful thing God has created is...

Three ways I looked after the world this week were by...

Lesson 30 -

FAMILY Discussion CARD

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Three ways I looked after the world this week were by...



30 Jesus and Me: Journal Lesson 30

Save the World!



Read Genesis 1:1 to Genesis 2:4 and complete the following table:

Day	WHAT GOD CREATED:	I THINK THE MOST <i>amazing</i> THINGS THAT GOD CREATED ON THIS DAY WERE: (you may need to be creative and think hard...)
1	Light	Lasers, infrared, ultra violet, colours...
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		

What do you think are the ten best things that God made, apart from humans?

Which day of creation do you think was the most important and why?

If you could have watched God at work on earth for one day during creation week, which day would you most like to have experienced?





30 Jesus and Me: Journal Lesson 30

Save the World!



Make a list of all the things you do this week that help to protect God's creation (apart from looking after yourself, of course!)

Day	WHAT I DID TO SAVE THE WORLD!

What did I do that made the biggest difference to the world?

What else could I have done to make a difference to the world?

What did I do to save the world that might also have made a positive difference to the life of another human being (such as buying fairtrade goods, buying from a charity shop, etc)?





30 Jesus and Me: Journal Lesson 30

Save the World: Write a Creation Praise Psalm



Write a psalm of praise for God's creation.

Write one or two verses praising God for something he created, inspired by what he made on each of the days of creation.

(PS. If you need some extra inspiration read Psalm 104)

Make a PowerPoint presentation of nature pictures to accompany your psalm and show it to the rest of your family, group or church. Find a piece of music to accompany your psalm or set it to music and make a praise song.

Day	MY VERSES THAT PRAISE GOD FOR WHAT HE MADE ON THIS DAY...
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	



Jesus and Me: Journal Lesson 30 : Save the World: Poster

Design a poster to encourage people to do something that will help to save the world.





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Jesus and Me: Journal Lesson 30 Save the world: Wasted!



- What happens to the world when I waste things without even thinking about it?
- What is the best way for me to take care of the world and the people in it?
- Write your ideas on extra (scrap!) paper if there's not enough space below.

FOOD

When I throw away food, eat too much food, eat food that has travelled a long way, or eat food that has been grown in environmentally unfriendly ways...

How might it affect:

Me?

My family?

My local environment?

The place where the food was made?

The people who grow and make my food?

The world?

What could I do that would be helpful?

Water

When I leave taps running, have long showers, wash my clothes after wearing them for a couple of hours, water my lawn every day, etc...How might it affect:

Me?

My family?

My local environment?

The place where fabric comes from?

The people who make my clothes?

The world?

What could I do that would be helpful?

ENERGY

When I leave lights on, have lots of hot baths, turn up the heating, leave the heating on when I'm out, boil too much water, drive my car everywhere, etc...

How might it affect:

Me?

My family?

My local environment?

The place where the fuel comes from?

The people who work to make the fuel?

The world?

What could I do that would be helpful?

CLOTHES

When I buy clothes I don't need, buy fashionable clothes every season, buy cheap clothes made by people in poor conditions, throw clothes away instead of mending and adapting them... How might it affect:

Me?

My family?

My local environment?

The place where fabric comes from?

The people who make my clothes?

The world?

What could I do that would be helpful?



30 Jesus and Me: Journal Lesson 30 Fun Ways to Save the World!



Have a Swap Party

Collect up all your unwanted and outgrown clothes and any other things that you don't really need or want any more.

Invite all your friends to do the same.

Check that no one in your own family wants to keep any of your things.

Bring all your things to one big room and set them out neatly on separate tables (male clothes, female clothes, CDs, books, other stuff, etc).

Encourage people to take away only the things they really need or want. Take any unwanted things to a charity shop.

For more helpful information see www.recyclingweek.planetark.org/documents/doc-92-swap-party-guide-final.pdf

Creation Reminders

Make something simple that reminds you to take care of God's creation.

Make a display of objects that remind you of each of the days of creation, such as a bookmark or poster.

Find seven beads that remind you of each of the seven days of creation and thread them together to make an unusual key-ring or a tag for your bag.

Improve your World

Ask the people who live near your church to suggest ways in which your local environment could be improved.

Work together as a church team to improve your local area, such as picking up rubbish, tidying up messy places, planting trees, etc. Check with your local council first to find out what you're allowed to do and how to do it safely and well.

Invite someone to make a report about your activity for the local paper.

Recycled Creation Day

Collect together all the interesting craft materials that you can find such as scraps of wood, paint, nails, picture frames, fabrics, buttons, ribbons, attractive paper, stickers, corks – anything you can find.

Encourage your friends to do the same.

Bring them all to one big space, with tools such as brushes, hammers, sewing kits, glue, scissors, hole-punches, etc.

Spend a day making wonderful recycled things for yourself, or to give away as presents. Or make things and auction them to church members or friends.

Put any money you make from the auction or sale towards a charity that cares for people.